



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at gscoe@deq.virginia.gov.

Manassas City Schools Join the Go Green Initiative

The Go Green Initiative is an international environmental education program that has been adopted by more than 750 schools in 41 states and around the world. It has received endorsements from the National School Boards Association and the National Recycling Coalition.

The Go Green Initiative website provides access to step-by-step directions on how to get a school recycling program started. Once a school registers, the school has access to all of the Go Green Initiative's tools, training, and funding opportunities.

The Manassas City School Board recently required all of its employees, staff and pupils to recycle. Since September 2007, the schools have collected 19 tons of recyclable materials.

For more information about the Manassas City's School recycling program, go to: www.manassas.k12.va.us and select "contact us" to send an email or call the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (703) 257-8808.

For more information about Go Green Initiative, go to: <http://www.gogreeninitiative.org/>

King William County Starts School Paper Recycling Program

Mrs. Diane Clements 6th grade class at Hamilton Holmes Middle School decided that they wanted to start a school recycling program. The program started collecting paper only in November, 2007. In less than a month, they had collected over 500 pounds. The people involved were so excited about their collection that they decided to expand their program and in January 2008, they began collecting cans, plastic, bottles, and bags. Mary Walton, King William County Litter and Recycling Program Manager reported on January 31, 2008, that the school has collected 959 pounds of paper which has saved approximately 1.6 cubic yards of landfill space. Word of the recycling program success has spread and other schools in King William County are not considering the implementation of a school recycling program too!

King William Refuse, a private company, donated the recycling bins for the school and has begun picking up recyclables from the school twice a week.

For more information about the success of the King William Recycling program, contact Mary Walton, Litter and Recycling Program Manager, at mwalton@kingwilliamcounty.us or (804) 769-4917.

Did You Know?

- ✓ The Recycling Rate Report form for CY 2007 is available! Go to: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/mandatory.html> to download a copy of the form and to get more information. The report is due to the Office of Recycling and Litter Prevention by April 30, 2008. Please contact Sheila Barnett at smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov or (804) 698-4055 or Steve Coe at gscoe@deq.virginia.gov or (804) 698-2389 if you have questions.
- ✓ The Environment Virginia 2008 Conference will be held April 1 – 3, 2008 in Lexington. For more information and to register, go to www.environmentva.org
- ✓ The **Virginia Recycling Association** (VRA) is seeking nominations for their 2008 awards for excellence in waste reduction, recycling and litter. To see a list of award categories and to download a nomination form, go to: <http://www.vrarecycles.org/> or call Brandy Derry at (540) 542-6310. The deadline for nominations to be received is March 17, 2008.
- ✓ The **Virginia Recycling Association** (VRA) will host a series of free school recycling workshops from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on March 10, 2008 in the City of Richmond. The workshop is free to anyone who wishes to attend or have a display. The VRA is targeting recycling educators, solid waste program managers, school personnel, colleges and universities and parents. For more information and to register for this workshop, contact Erica Trout at (804) 302-4231 or ericatrout@msn.com
- ✓ Elmer's Glue and Wal-Mart have teamed up to collect empty glue bottles and sticks. Teachers are encouraged to use a shoe box or an empty paper box to collect empty glue bottles and sticks. They can be taken to Wal-Mart beginning April 22, 2008 through the end of the school year. For more information go to: www.elmersgluecrew.com

Supermarket Composting Handbook Available

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection created a composting handbook for supermarket operators. To download a copy, go to www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/reduce/smhandbk.pdf

For more information, to receive a CD, or receive a hard copy of the manual, contact Ms. Morgan Harriman, Commercial Waste Reduction Planner, Mass DEP at morgan.harriman@state.ma.us or (617) 654-6580 or

Recycling Lines Continued

16 Virginia Schools are participating in Recyclemania!

The schools listed below are registered for this year's Recyclemania competition. The purpose of Recyclemania is to encourage schools to recycle more and reduce waste through a friendly national competition. The competition categories include the largest amount of recyclables collected per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables collected, produce the least amount of waste per capita or have the highest recycling rate.

The links for each school will take you to their Recyclemania webpage which shows what materials the school is targeting for recycling, how much each school has recycled and which contests they have entered.

[Bridgewater College](#)
[College of William and Mary](#)
[Eastern Mennonite University](#)
[Emory and Henry College](#)
[James Madison University](#)
[Liberty University](#)
[Longwood University](#)
[Lynchburg College](#)
[Mary Baldwin College](#)
[Old Dominion University](#)
[University of Virginia-Main Campus](#)
[Virginia Commonwealth University](#)
[Virginia Military Institute](#)
[Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University](#)
[Virginia Wesleyan College](#)
[Washington and Lee University](#)

RecycleMania 2008 began January 27 and will run for 10 weeks. Recyclemania reports that there are more than 400 colleges and universities participating this year.

For more information about RecycleMania, go to the RecycleMania website: www.recyclemaniacs.org or call (843) 278-7686.

Mercury Thermostat Collection News

The Project Stewardship Institute conducted a one-year pilot study in Indiana and Oregon to find out if cash incentives would encourage the collection of Mercury Thermostats. In Oregon, the number of collected thermostats jumped 124 percent with the amount of collected mercury from the thermostats increased by 139%. The number of wholesalers who participated in the program was almost 75%. The cash back incentive in Oregon was \$4 per thermostat.

In Virginia, the Thermostat Recycling Corporation (TRC) provides thermostat recycling free of charge for wholesaler dealers specializing in heating and air conditioning (HVAC). There are approximately 65 dealers in Virginia who participate in the mercury thermostat take back program.

For information about the pilot study conducted by the Project Stewardship Institute, go to: <http://www.productstewardship.us/index.cfm> or contact Scott Cassel at PSI at scott@productstewardship.us or (617) 236-4855.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality has a mercury reduction website. Go to: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/mercury/homepage.html> or contact Tom Griffin at tgriffin@deq.virginia.gov or (804) 698-4545.

The website for TRC is: <http://www.nema.org/gov/ehs/trc/>

EPA is Targeting Cell Phone Recycling

The EPA estimates that fewer than 20 percent of cell phones are recycled each year because people do not know where to recycle them.

Plug-In To eCycling partners have sponsoring a year-long campaign to educate the public about where they can recycle cell phones and work with communities to hold special drives.

Go to <http://www.epa.gov/cellphone/> for more information including a series of e-Cycling podcasts, e-Cycling partner resources center. Learn where phones can be dropped off or to what businesses they can be mailed.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality also maintains a web page dedicated to e-waste recycling. Go to: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/ecycling/links.html>

EPA's New Multi-Cultural Environmental Outreach Materials to teach English While Teaching about Environmental Stewardship

The EPA produced two multi-cultural environmental outreach publications. "Working Together for a Healthy Environment – A guide for Multi-Cultural Community Groups," is designed to assist community-based organizations host events that promote the concepts of reducing, reusing, and recycling.

"Teach English, Teach about the Environment" is an adult-based curriculum to teach adults English while introducing them to basic environmental concepts and how to be good environmental stewards.

For more information about "Working Together for a Healthy Environment – A Guide for Multi-Cultural Community Groups" go to: <http://www.epa.gov/osw/community.htm>

For information about "Teach English, Teach about the Environment" go to: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/education/teachers.htm>

Augusta County Correctional Center is Awarded "E2" Designation

On January 29, 2008, the Augusta County Correctional Center was awarded the E2 designation as part of its participation in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's Environmental Excellence program (VEEP). The facility has implemented a recycling program for cardboard, metal, food grease, drums and wooden pallets. The facility also plans to add an aluminum recycling program within the next year.

Any Virginia manufacturer, commercial establishment, Federal/state/local government agency, school, non-governmental organization and small business are eligible to enroll in VEEP. To participate in VEEP, the organization must establish measurable goals to reduce pollution or waste. Go to www.deq.virginia.gov/veep for more information about the program. There is also a list of organizations in Virginia that are already participating in VEEP.

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